

THE
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HEROES

CHAPTER 118 RED EYE

Part 2 of 2

The man called Red Eye was determined to get revenge against the Kill Squad for all the pain they had caused him. He even went as far as kidnapping Anna, a young girl with powers of her own to help him. Over time, they came to know one another as more than captor and hostage, and when the inevitable battle against the Kill Squad occurred, Red Eye was able to coax Anna into using her mind-altering powers—to devastating results. Disgusted by her actions and hateful of Red Eye for putting her in this position, Anna fled...

Now, several months later, Anna is in a small northeast college town, trying to escape the past...and wary of an uncertain future...

THACA, NEW YORK.

IT'S BEEN WEEKS
SINCE IT HAPPENED.

RICARDO SILVA. THEY CALLED HIM
REDEYE. HE KIDNAPPED ME. *USED* ME.
MADE ME DO *TERRIBLE* THINGS.

I USED MY POWER--MY
CURSE--TO KILL PEOPLE. NOW
THERE'S BLOOD ON MY HANDS.

I NEEDED TO GET AWAY
FROM HIM--FROM WHAT
WE'D DONE--SO I BROKE
FREE... AND RAN.

UNTIL I FINALLY
REALIZED THAT
IF HE--
--OR ANY OF
THE OTHERS--

--*TRULY* WANTED TO
FIND ME, THERE WAS NO
PLACE I COULD HIDE.
NOWHERE I WOULD
TRULY BE SAFE.

IN A WAY, I GUESS I FOUND
THAT... COMFORTING.

SO, UH,
MISS KOROLENKO.
IS THAT
RUSSIAN?

YES.

ARE YOU
AN EXCHANGE
STUDENT?

NO,
ACTUALLY
I LIVE HERE
NOW.

COOL, THEN
I GUESS I'LL BE
SEEING YOU
AROUND.

DEFINITELY.

RED EYE *Part Two*

DAVID WOHL
Writer

MARCUS TO
Art

PETER STEIGERWALD
Colors

COMICRAFT
Lettering

An ASPEN MLT INC. Production

THIS IS WHERE I STOPPED RUNNING. WHERE I'VE BEGUN MY NEW LIFE.

I WORK AS A WAITRESS, ON THE OVERNIGHT SHIFT AT THE BLUE DOLPHIN DINER.

IT ISN'T THE GREATEST JOB, BUT IT PAYS THE BILLS--WITH JUST ENOUGH MONEY LEFT OVER FOR A CLASS OR TWO AT THE UNIVERSITY.

MY REMAINING TIME IS SPENT READING AND LEARNING--TRYING TO UNDERSTAND WHO I AM, WHERE I CAME FROM, AND MOST OF ALL...

...HOW TO CONTROL MY *ABILITY* TO HURT PEOPLE'S *MINDS*.

BUT WHAT IF I'M WRONG?

MAYBE I CAN NEVER STOP. NEVER SETTLE DOWN.

THEY SAY PRIMATECH IS GONE, BUT I KNOW *HE'S* STILL OUT THERE...

...LOOKING FOR ME.

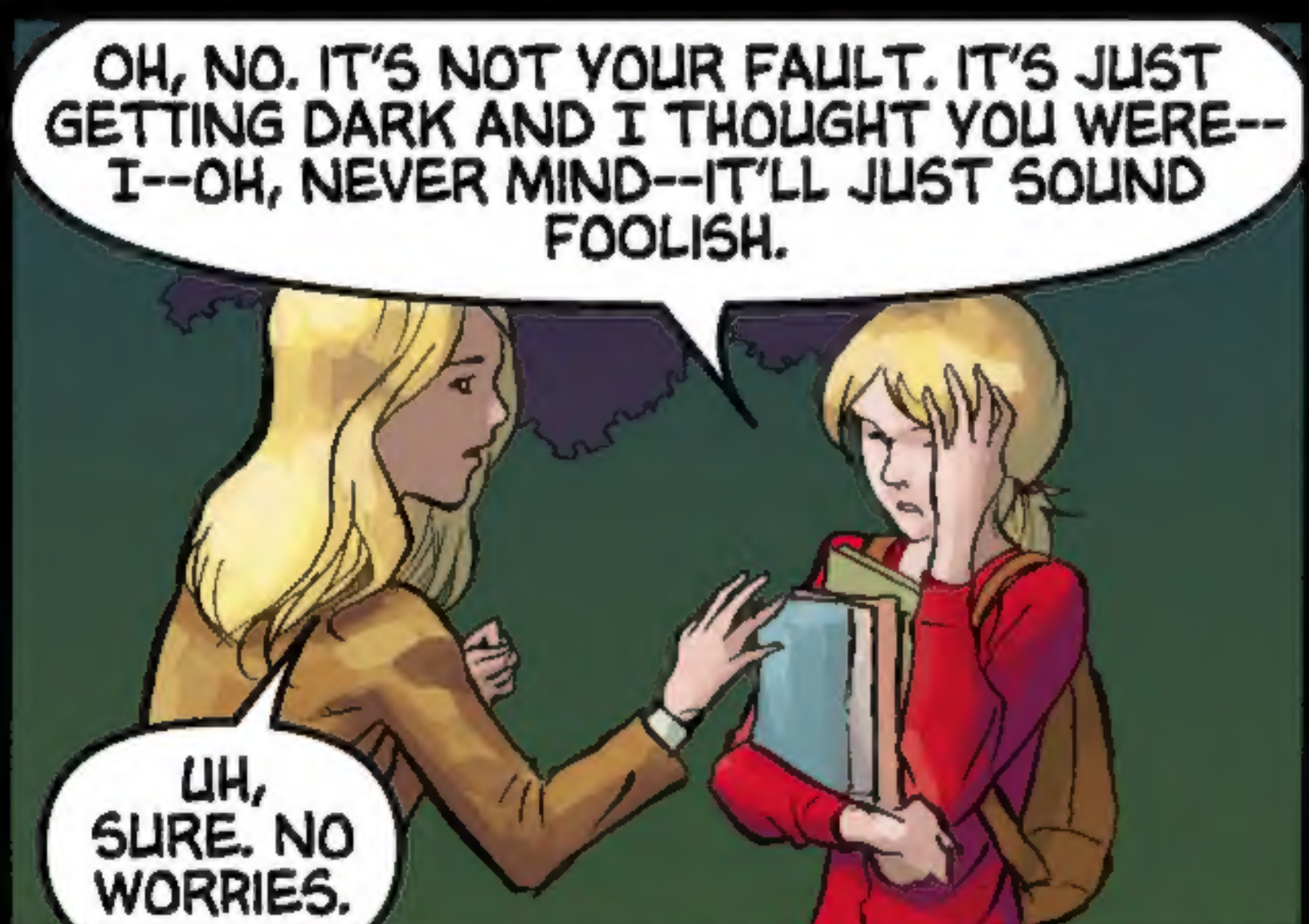
HE COULD BE *ANYWHERE*--

EXCUSE ME, COULD YOU TELL ME WHERE LECTURE HALL D IS?



≡GASP≡

HEY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO SCARE YOU LIKE THAT. I WAS JUST--



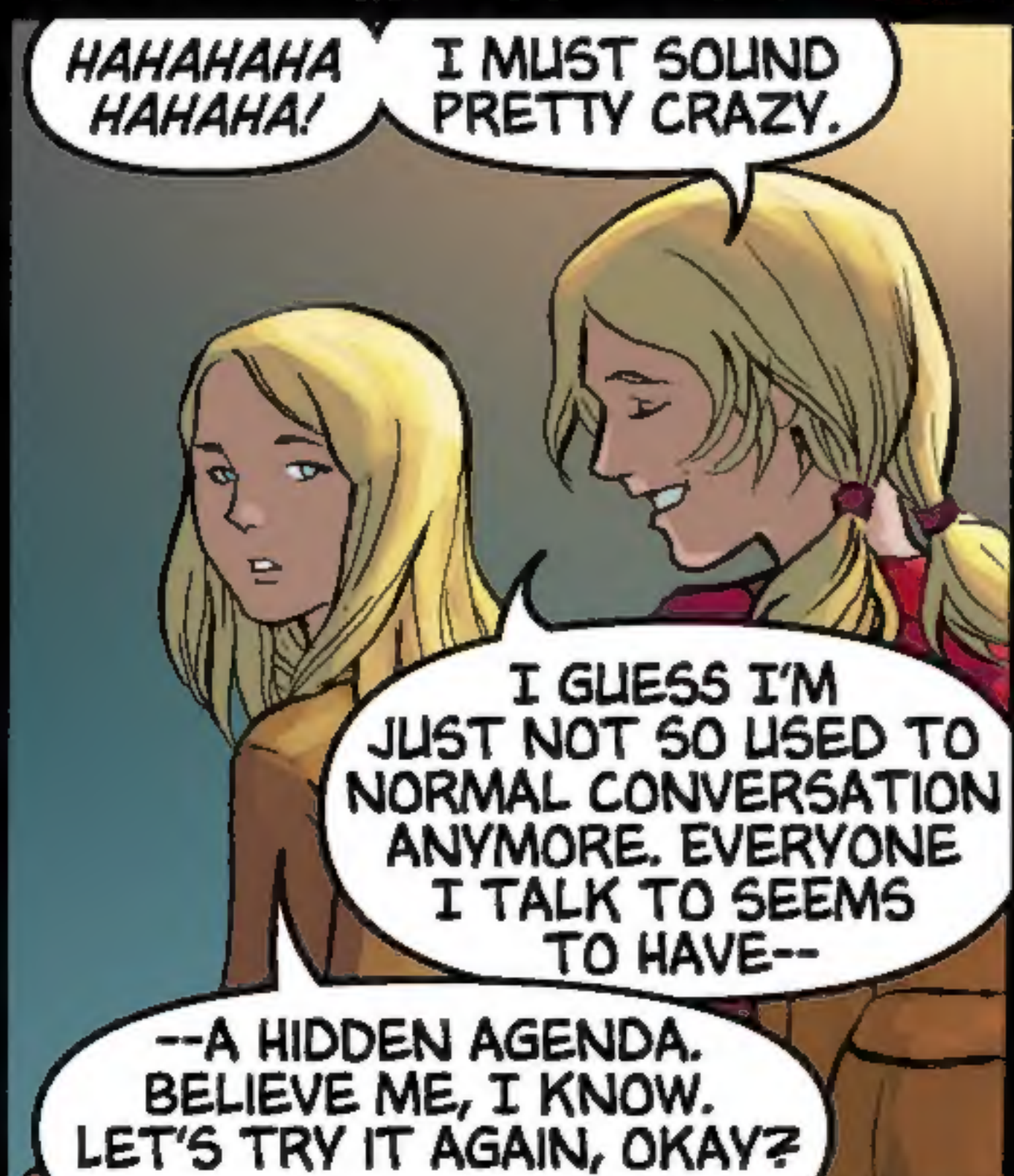
OH, NO. IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT. IT'S JUST GETTING DARK AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE-- I--OH, NEVER MIND--IT'LL JUST SOUND FOOLISH.

UH, SURE. NO WORRIES.



GREAT. WELL, UH, LATER.

WAIT, DID YOU SAY YOU WERE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?

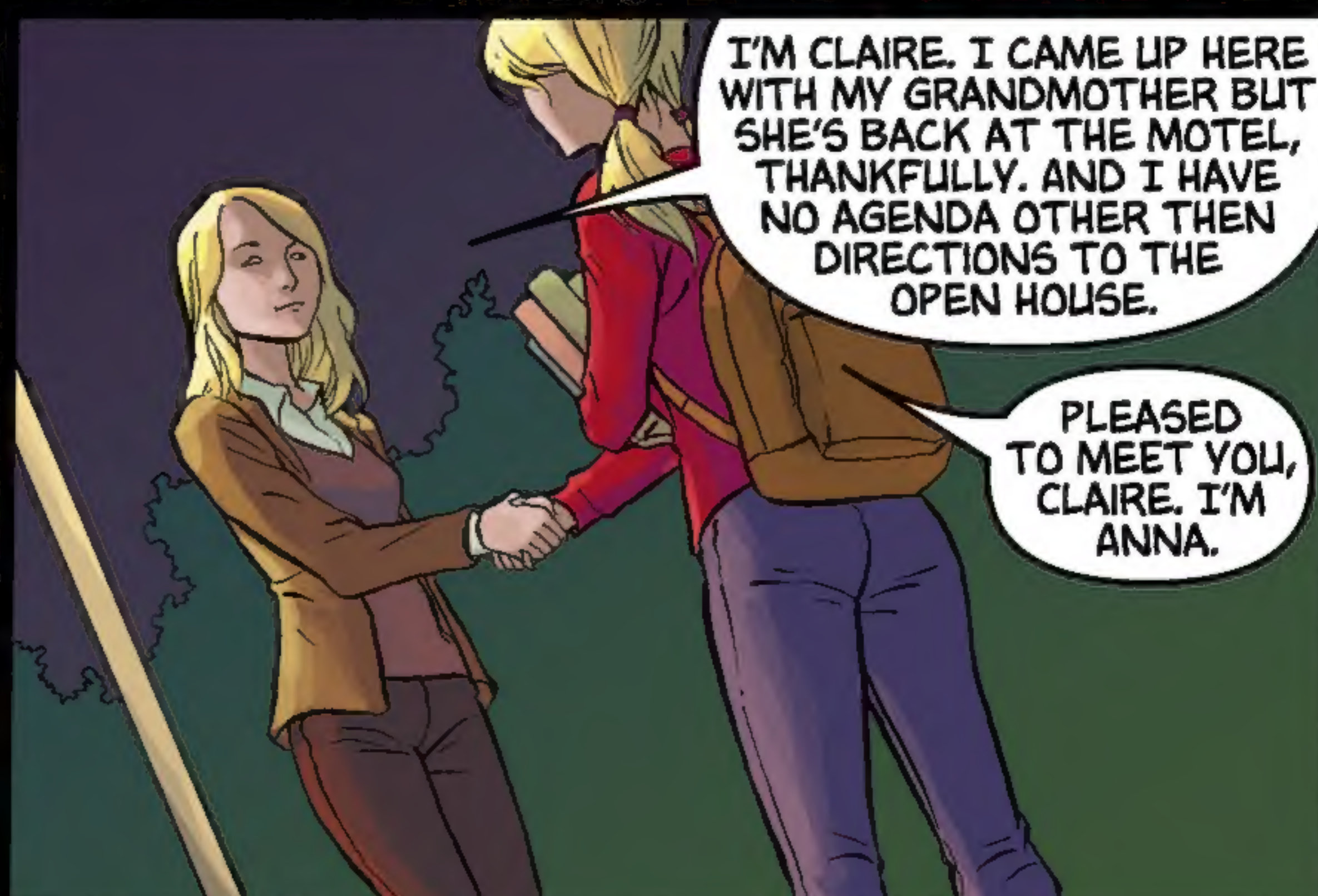


HAHAHAHA
HAHAHA!

I MUST SOUND PRETTY CRAZY.

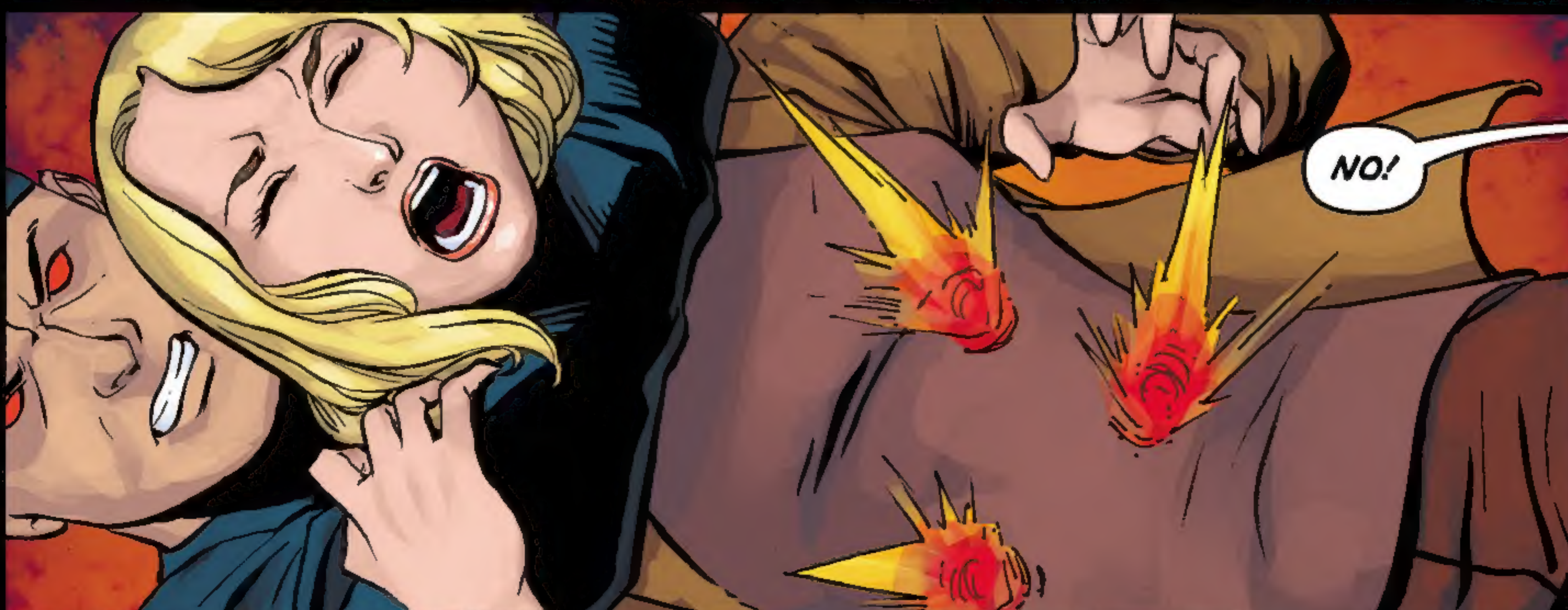
I GUESS I'M JUST NOT SO USED TO NORMAL CONVERSATION ANYMORE. EVERYONE I TALK TO SEEMS TO HAVE--

--A HIDDEN AGENDA. BELIEVE ME, I KNOW. LET'S TRY IT AGAIN, OKAY?



I'M CLAIRE. I CAME UP HERE WITH MY GRANDMOTHER BUT SHE'S BACK AT THE MOTEL, THANKFULLY. AND I HAVE NO AGENDA OTHER THEN DIRECTIONS TO THE OPEN HOUSE.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU, CLAIRE. I'M ANNA.







NNNGGHHHH...
WHAT HAPPENED?

CLAIRE!



YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT!
AND THE
GUARDS!
HOW--?!

I WAS JUST
WONDERING
THE SAME
THING ABOUT
YOU! WHO'S
THE GLY?

HIS NAME
IS RICARDO.
WE HAVE...
HISTORY.



AND DID
HE MAKE
THEM--

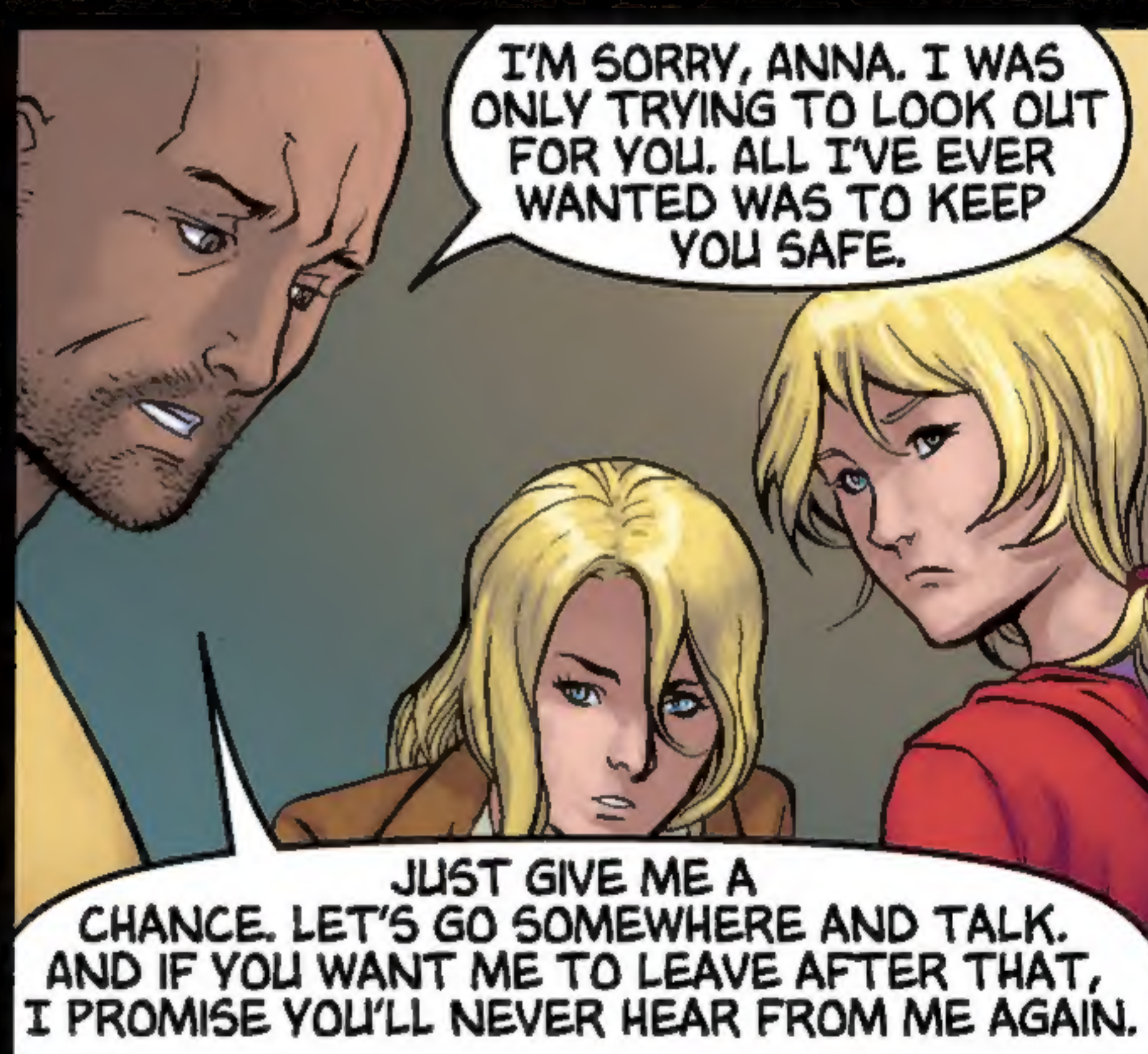
YES.

EXCUSE ME,
BUT IS EVERY-
THING--UH--ALL
RIGHT OVER HERE?
DID ONE OF YOU
CALL FOR HELP?

THE GUARDS ARE ALL RIGHT--AND THEY
DON'T REMEMBER A THING! I MUST BE
GAINING CONTROL OVER MY ABILITY!

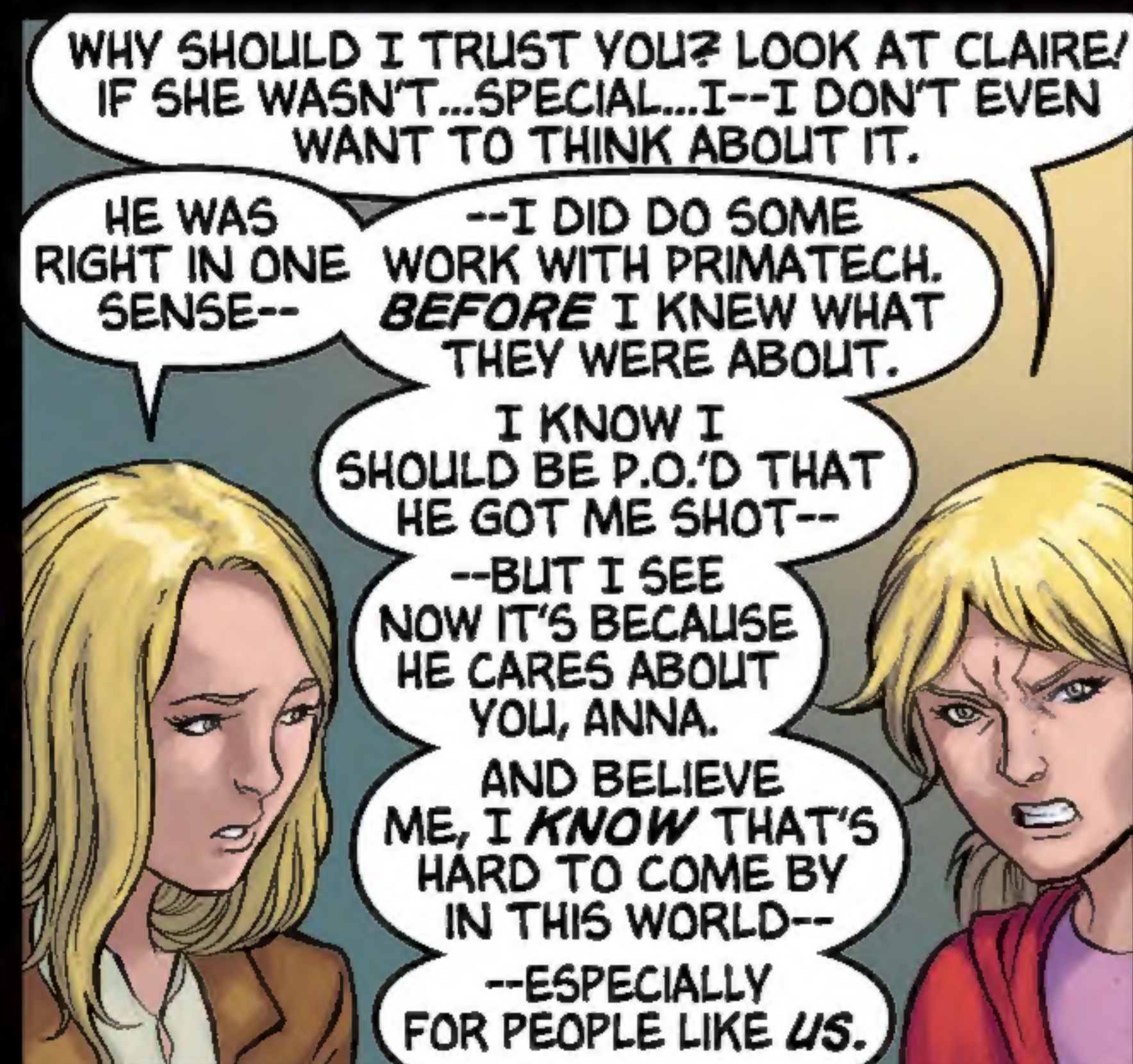
JUST A LITTLE
MISUNDERSTANDING,
I GUESS.

ALL RIGHT.
WELL, JUST LET US
KNOW IF WE CAN BE
OF ASSISTANCE.



I'M SORRY, ANNA. I WAS
ONLY TRYING TO LOOK OUT
FOR YOU. ALL I'VE EVER
WANTED WAS TO KEEP
YOU SAFE.

JUST GIVE ME A
CHANCE. LET'S GO SOMEWHERE AND TALK.
AND IF YOU WANT ME TO LEAVE AFTER THAT,
I PROMISE YOU'LL NEVER HEAR FROM ME AGAIN.



WHY SHOULD I TRUST YOU? LOOK AT CLAIRE!
IF SHE WASN'T...SPECIAL...I--I DON'T EVEN
WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT.

HE WAS
RIGHT IN ONE
SENSE--

--I DID DO SOME
WORK WITH PRIMATECH.
BEFORE I KNEW WHAT
THEY WERE ABOUT.

I KNOW I
SHOULD BE P.O.'D THAT
HE GOT ME SHOT--

--BUT I SEE
NOW IT'S BECAUSE
HE CARES ABOUT
YOU, ANNA.

AND BELIEVE
ME, I **KNOW** THAT'S
HARD TO COME BY
IN THIS WORLD--

--ESPECIALLY
FOR PEOPLE LIKE **US**.



WELL THEN MAYBE IT'S TIME
FOR ALL OF US TO HAVE A
TALK...OVER DINNER.

ON ME.

THE END